

Message Text

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42

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 CCO-00 /069 W
----- 060300

R 211515Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4198

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USUN NEW YORK 912

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0801

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SF, US

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE ON SOUTH AFRICA

REF: (A) STATE 253550; (B) STATE 254258; (C) CAPE TOWN 795

1. ALTHOUGH REF (B) HAD INTERNAL DTG OF 182345Z NOV 72, EXTERNAL DTG OF 202334Z SHOWS IT WAS NOTTRANSMITTED BY DEPT UNTIL 48 HOURS LATER, RECEIVED CAPE TOWN 210925Z NOV 74.

2. FORTUNATELY EARLIER CALL ON FONMIN, AS REPORTED IN REF(C), MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR AMBASSADOR MAKE POINTS OUTLINED PARA 6, REF(A).

3. BRITISH AMBASSADOR SIR JAMES BOTTOMLEY MADE HIS APPROACH ON NOV 7 IN BRIEF, HURRIED CALL JUST PRIOR TO MULLER'S DEPARTURE FOR AIRPORT ON TRIP OUTSIDE CAPE TOWN. WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT BOTTOMLEY MADE HIS POINTS BUT THAT MULLER WAS SOMEWHAT PREOCCUPIED AND NOT VERY RESPONSIVE. BRITISH DID NOT INTEND TO MAKE SPECIAL APPROACH TO PRIME MINISTER VORSTER.

4. FRENCH AMBASSADOR LEGENDRE SAW MULLER IN PRETORIA
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AFTERNOON NOV 18, SHORTLY AFTER AMBASSADOR'S DEMARCHE (REF C).

LEGENDRE CONFIDED ON NOV 19 THAT MULLER LISTENED TO AND ACKNOWLEDGED FRENCH VIEWPOINT BUT HAD NOT SEEMED IN MOOD TO DISCUSS MATTERS IN ANY DETAIL.

5. SEEMS NONETHELESS CLEAR AT THIS STAGE THAT THREE WESTERN POWERS HAVE EFFECTIVELY PUT THEIR POINT ACROSS. IN FACT, WE ARE TRYING TO CHECK OUT CAPE TIMES REPORT THAT IN SPEECH TO ORANGE FREE STATE NATIONAL CONGRESS IN BLOEMFONTEIN YESTERDAY (SEPTEL) VORSTER "QUOTED AT LENGTH" FROM AMBASSADOR SCALI'S UN VETO SPEECH MAKING CLEAR THAT US REJECTED APARTHEID AS EVIL AND UGLY WHILE ALSO REJECTING VIOLENCE AS MEANS TO EFFECT CHANGE. VORSTER REPORTEDLY TOLD FELLOW PARTY MEMBERS THAT HE QUOTED SCALI NOT IN SPIRIT OF REPROACHMENT BUT TO SHOW HOW STRONGLY A RESPONSIBLE WESTERN NATION FELT ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA'S INTERNAL POLICIES SO HIS AUDIENCE WOULD KNOW WHAT SOUTH AFRICA'S POSITION WAS IN TODAY'S WORLD. IN PAST SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE SOMETIMES GIVEN IMPRESSION THEY REGARDED US STATEMENTS IN WASHINGTON OR UN AS INTENDED ONLY FOR US DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION OR FOR BLACK AFRICANS. VORSTER'S QUOTE OF SCALI SPEECH MAY BE EVIDENCE THEY ARE BEGINNING TAKE SUCH STATEMENTS MORE SERIOUSLY.

HURD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CAPET00801
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740337-0927
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741125/aaaaausy.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 253550; (B) STATE 254258;; (C) CAPE TOWN 795
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <21 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEMARCHE ON SOUTH AFRICA
TAGS: PFOR, SF, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005